



Marked-Up Version of Two (2) Replacement Paragraphs

Figure 3 - shows a schematic view of the *R. corallina* *ohp* operon obtained by functional screening in *E. coli*, as described in Example 7. The schematic shows location of predicted genes: Regulator (SEQ ID No. 3), Transport (SEQ ID No. 4), Monooxygenase (SEQ ID No. 5), Hydroxymuconic semialdehyde hydrolase (SEQ ID No. 6), Catechol-2,3-dioxygenase (SEQ ID NO. 7), Alcohol dehydrogenase (SEQ ID No. 8). Initiator and terminator codons are shown as half height and full height lines respectively. Base coordinates refer to the Figure 4 sequence. The location of predicted promoter regions and direction are indicated by arrows. The molecular weights and coordinates of *ohp* genes are tabulated.

Figure 4 - shows the complete listing of the *R. corallina* *ohp* operon as described in Example 7 (SEQ ID No. 1 - top strand; SEQ ID No. 2 - bottom strand). It includes a portion of a putative nitropropane promoter (51 of the regulator).



Marked-Up Version of Primers

F:127 5'CGCTGATTTGTATTGTCTG 3'145 (SEQ ID No. 9)

R:502 5'GACTTCCATTGTTCATTC 3'484 (SEQ ID No. 10)

F:51171 5'AAAAGACGTCGGTGCTAATAAGGGACAGTG 3'51190 (SEQ ID No. 11)

R:51395 5'AAAAGACGTCACAAAACAGCAGGGAAAGCAG 3'51376 (SEQ ID No. 12)



Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims

34. (Twice Amended) A vector as claimed in claim 33 [which is pJP7 as described herein] comprising lux AB signal genes, sacB gene, kanamycin and thiostrepton resistance genes, an E. coli origin of replication, and RP4 mobilizing elements.

50. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an operon protein, which operon protein is the Regulator (REG) protein of the *R. corallina* *ohp* operon [or a modification thereof].

51. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 50 wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

52. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 51 wherein the nucleotide sequence is shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

53. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 50 wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 90% identical to the one shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

54. (Amended) A nucleic acid as claimed in claim 50 further comprising an inducible promoter region of the nucleotide

sequence encoding the *R. corallina* *ohp* operon described in Fig. 3 (SEQ ID No. 1) wherein the Regulator (REG) protein controls transcriptional initiation of said inducible promoter region.

55. (Amended) A nucleic acid as claimed in claim 54 wherein the promoter region is the *ohp* promoter region which lies between genes *orfR* regulatory gene (terminator codon 1035) and *orfT* transport (initiator codon 1450) shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) or is a modified inducible promoter region which is at least 90% identical to said *ohp* promoter region.
57. (Amended) A vector as claimed in claim [50] 56 comprising one or more of the following: *luxAB* signal genes; *sacB* gene; antibiotic resistance; RP4/RK2 mobilizing elements.